

# **Whatcom County Council**

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038  
(360) 778-5010**



## **Meeting Agenda**

**Tuesday, April 15, 2025  
6 PM**

**Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

**HYBRID MEETING (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN  
INSTRUCTIONS AT [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil) OR CALL  
360.778.5010)**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Barry Buchanan  
Tyler Byrd  
Todd Donovan  
Ben Elenbaas  
Kaylee Galloway  
Jon Scanlon  
Mark Stremmer

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

## COUNTY COUNCIL

### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

### FLAG SALUTE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council is currently holding meetings in hybrid format with options for in-person or remote viewing and participation. For instructions on remote participation, visit [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil) and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak remotely. Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the Council's meetings are asked to contact the Council Office at 360.778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

The County is accepting applications from county residents to fill vacancies on several boards, commissions, and committees spanning a wide range of important local issues. For more information, visit the Boards and Commissions vacancy webpage on the County website or call the Council Office or County Executive's Office.

### COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

### MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-018](#) Special Council for March 18, 2025
2. [MIN2025-019](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for March 25, 2025
3. [MIN2025-020](#) Committee of the Whole for March 25, 2025
4. [MIN2025-021](#) Regular County Council for March 25, 2025

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Participants requesting to speak during public hearings may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil) and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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1. [AB2025-231](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Section 1.14, Electoral Precincts, with newly established voting precinct boundaries for Whatcom County
2. [AB2025-234](#) Resolution to declare Whatcom County real property as surplus and approve transfer
3. [AB2025-246](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Title 20 (Zoning) regarding home-based businesses
4. [AB2025-255](#) Resolution to sell county tax title property by negotiation

**OPEN SESSION**

Participants requesting to speak during open session may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil) and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

During open session, audience members may speak to the council on issues not scheduled for public hearing. All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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Per RCW 42.36.060 Councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include MPP2024-00001 City of Bellingham Mitigation Bank, LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, PUD2022-00001 Royal Emerald Motors Planned Unit Development, MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements, and CUP2023-00003/DEV2024-00001 Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-283](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health services in the amount of \$298,592, for a total amended agreement amount of \$5,617,278
2. [AB2025-284](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Bennett Engineering to monitor closed landfills in the amount of \$10,629, for a total amended contract amount of \$157,265

3. [AB2025-287](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Sun Community Services to lease the property located at 515 E Chestnut Street in Bellingham
4. [AB2025-288](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) in support of the Domestic Violence Commission in the amount of \$190,000
5. [AB2025-295](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to grant a perpetual easement to Patrick and Peggy Rauso across park property for ingress/egress purposes to a private residence adjacent to Lake Whatcom Park
6. [AB2025-296](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into Amendment 3 to the agreement between Whatcom County and Astound Business Solutions, LLC (formerly Wave) for additional leased fiber optic connectivity from the Courthouse to the 400 N. Commercial Street building and to the 104/110 Unity Street building in the amount of \$75,079.49
7. [AB2025-297](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$10,000
8. [AB2025-298](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Sumas for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000
9. [AB2025-299](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Lynden for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000
10. [AB2025-300](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Everson for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000
11. [AB2025-301](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000
12. [AB2025-307](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and the Back Country Horsemen of Washington for use of a portion of the Y- Road Landfill property to be used as a trailhead and off-road parking for horse related recreational activities

13. [AB2025-308](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Sendan Center to increase kindergarten readiness, in the amount of \$244,597
14. [AB2025-309](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Whatcom Family YMCA to increase kindertgarten readiness, in the amount of \$506,253

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **(From Council Committee of the Whole)**

1. [AB2025-221](#) Discussion and motion relating to draft Countywide Planning Policy amendments
2. [AB2025-239](#) Resolution regarding additional guidance from the County Council to the Executive and Planning and Development Services Department on the population, housing, and employment allocations
3. [AB2025-280](#) Resolution approving a conditional use permit and development agreement for Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park

## **COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

1. [AB2025-185](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Forest Advisory Committee, commercial forest landowner position, Applicant(s): Robert Janicki
2. [AB2025-250](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Surface Mining Advisory Committee, Geologist position, Applicant(s): John Byers
3. [AB2025-294](#) Reconsideration of appointment to a position on the Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee, Harvester position, Member: Quentin Dills
4. [AB2025-317](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Advisory Committee, Applicant: Kyle Burton

## **CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

**Per Whatcom County Code 2.03.070(B), the council must confirm or reject executive appointments within 30 days of submission to the council. County code deems the appointee confirmed if council does not take action within this time.**

1. [AB2025-286](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Alana Pattersmann to the Whatcom County Housing Authority Board

## **ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION**

**INTRODUCTION ITEMS**

**Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.**

1. [AB2025-242](#) Receipt of the 2024 Public Works Contractor Apprenticeship Program (CAP) Annual Report

**NO ACTION NEEDED BEYOND RECEIPT OF DOCUMENT**

2. [AB2025-282](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Chapter 16.24 (Commute Trip Reduction) and adopting the 2025-2029 Commute Trip Reduction Plan for Whatcom County
3. [AB2025-290](#) Ordinance amending the project based budget for the N. Fork Road/Kenney Creek Fish Passage fund, Request No. 2
4. [AB2025-293](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Courtroom Audio Visual Systems Upgrade, request no. 1
5. [AB2025-302](#) Resolution amending the 2025 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 1, in the amount of \$14,400 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
6. [AB2025-310](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Lookout Mountain Road Repairs Project Fund, request no. 1
7. [AB2025-314](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 4, in the amount of \$6,227,211

**COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES****ADJOURN**